

Comparison of CDF and D0 Inclusive Jet Cross-sections[†]

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The recently reported CDF and D0 inclusive jet cross-sections are compared, using a uniform theoretical NLO QCD calculation to account for the different kinematic coverages of the pseudo-rapidity variable in the two experiments. The two data sets are found to be in good agreement. With a 2-3% relative overall normalization adjustment, the data sets appear to agree over the entire E_t range, even without taking into account the other systematic errors.

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This short CTEQ note contains material extracted from a talk given at the Rome DIS conference in April, 1996. It is presented here because of the strong current interest in the implications of the CDF and D0 inclusive jet data. Some of these results will appear in our contribution to the Proceedings of the Rome DIS conference, and in a forthcoming paper on a systematic global analysis including new DIS and jet data resulting in a new series of CTEQ4 parton distributions [8].

A great deal of attention has been given recently to the high statistics inclusive jet production measurements made at the Tevatron, stimulated by the observation by the CDF collaboration of a larger cross-section at high jet E_t than expected from NLO QCD calculations based on previously available parton distributions. [1,2] This result may have far reaching consequences if it is confirmed experimentally, and if it cannot be explained in the conventional theoretical framework. Thus, the recently reported independent measurement by the D0 collaboration [3] was anticipated with a lot of interest. Unfortunately, the comparison of the results from the two experiments has, so far, led to rather ambiguous interpretations. This is partly due to the fact that, although the statistics are high for most of the measured E_t range, the systematic errors on these preliminary data are too large to allow for a definitive conclusion. These systematic errors have yet to be fully analyzed and properly taken into account in a meaningful comparison. If one overlooks the systematic errors, the comparison plots displayed [3] leaves the impression that the two sets of data disagree in general shape, as well as in normalization over the well-measured medium E_t range of 100 – 200 GeV.

There is a second source of uncertainty in the comparison: the two experiments have slightly different kinematical coverage in the pseudo-rapidity variable— $0.1 < |\eta| < 0.7$ for CDF vs. $|\eta| < 0.5$ for D0. This makes it impossible to compare the measured cross-sections directly because the cross-section has an η dependence in general. This difference in η coverage must be corrected before a meaningful comparison can be made. The correction factor can only be generated from some theory. Since NLO QCD is very successful in accounting for the measured cross-section over 8 orders of magnitude in the observed E_t range, it is then natural to use the NLO QCD theory as the common meeting ground for comparing the two experiments. In practice, one computes the percentage difference between the individual measurement versus the respective NLO QCD theory expectation, and then compares the two differences. Thus, effectively, one is comparing the two experimental results, normalized to theory. However, in the comparison of the two data sets presented previously, the theoretical corrections were calculated separately by the two collaborations using two different NLO QCD programs: EKS [4] for CDF and JETRAD [5] for D0. Since the application of these NLO programs is known to be a delicate matter (involving jet algorithms, scale choices, jet merging prescriptions, ... etc.), it cannot be taken for granted that the existing comparisons are unambiguous, even if the two programs have been checked against each other under other circumstances before. The possibility exists that, in comparing (Data - “Theory”) / “Theory” from the two experiments, the “Theory” were not the same—hence the comparison was not an appropriate one.

Thus, we have undertaken to do an independent comparison of the two measured cross-sections using an *uniform theoretical calculation* as the common calibration. Specifically, we used a recent version of the EKS program to calculate the expected “Theory” values for both the CDF and D0 data points, integrating over their respective η ranges, and then compared the two (Data - Theory) / Theory results.* We found, surprisingly, that *the two sets of data agree rather well with each other*. Although it is not possible to quantify

*The renormalization and factorization scales are both set to $\mu = E_t/2$. The theoretical cross-section is quite insensitive to the choice of μ for the range of E_t considered. [4] [5]

the agreement/disagreement (say, by a meaningful χ^2), without a proper treatment of all the correlated systematic errors, the impression gained from these results is qualitatively different from that mentioned before, as we will now show.

Fig. 1 and Fig. 2 present the comparison of preliminary CDF and D0 Run-IB data normalized to theory, using the CTEQ3M [6] and MRSD0' [7] parton distribution sets, respectively, which were obtained before the jet data became available. The error bars are statistical only. In these figures, one sees the, by now, well-known higher-than-expected CDF cross-section. However, the two sets of data seem to be in rather good qualitative agreement. In the medium E_t range (say, 50 – 200 GeV) where the cross-section is well-measured, there appears to be a 2-3% difference in relative overall normalization between the two experiments, which is well within the experimental normalization uncertainties, but quite a bit smaller than that seen in earlier comparisons. If an adjustment of the relative normalization of this magnitude is made, the agreement will look even better (see next paragraph). It may be tempting to notice a slight difference in slopes of the two data sets as a function of E_t . But one must bear in mind that correlated errors are not included in this comparison. Several of these systematic errors can easily lead to E_t dependent corrections which will nullify the observed effect.

Similar conclusions are reached using as reference two recent parton distribution sets which incorporate some of the jet data in the global fit. Fig. 3 uses the forthcoming CTEQ4M distributions [8] which includes the medium range E_t jet data, along with the most recent H1 [9] and ZEUS [10] deep inelastic scattering measurements; whereas Fig. 4 uses one of the CTEQHJ parton sets which are tailored to accommodate the CDF high E_t (> 200 GeV) jets along with the other data sets [11]. In this comparison, an overall normalization shift between data and theory was allowed during the fit for each experiment. The resulting normalization factors for CDF/D0 were found to be 1.01/0.99 for CTEQ4M and 1.01/0.98 for CTEQHJ. These normalization factors were applied to the data points in these figures. Thus, there is a relative normalization shift between the two sets of data by about 2-3% for both of these plots. We see that these new parton distributions give better fits to the jet data; and they provide the same conclusions concerning the comparison of the CDF and D0 data relative to each other. Fig. 4 particularly highlights the remarkable agreement between the two experiments over the entire E_t range, even when all systematic errors (except overall normalization) have been left out.

These simple calculations show that, on one hand, it is gratifying to see the agreement between the inclusive jet cross-sections measured by CDF and D0 when a uniform theoretical calculation is used to correct the different η coverages. On the other hand, the fact that our results differ from previous comparisons underlines the sensitivity of the NLO QCD calculation of jet cross-sections to subtle effects of jet algorithms, scale-choice, and delicate cancellations among various contributions, which all have to be handled with care if precision at a few percent level is required. It is possible that the same program can give different answers with different parameter choices; and different versions of the same program may not give the same answers if not suitably adjusted.

Since the results described here were presented at the Rome DIS conference, a number of concerted efforts are being made by the various groups to study the sensitivity of the theoretical calculation to the various factors mentioned above, to the accuracy necessary for a full understanding of all the data and their physics implications.

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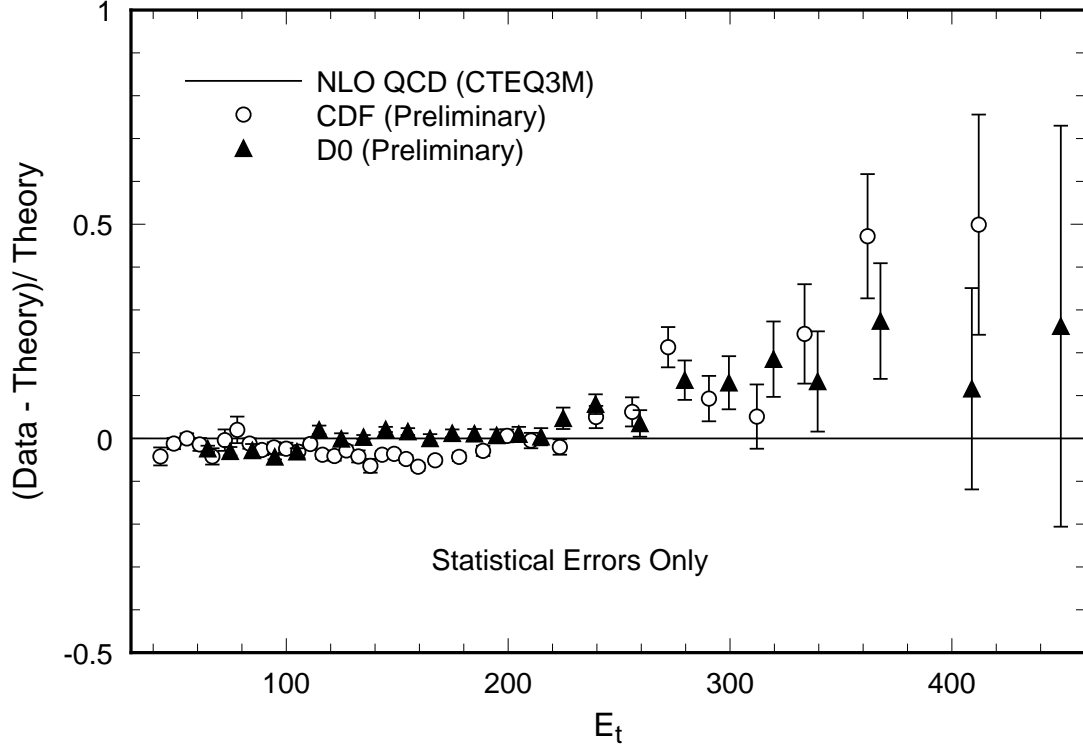


FIG. 1. The preliminary CDF and D0 Run Ib data compared to NLO QCD using CTEQ3M parton distributions.

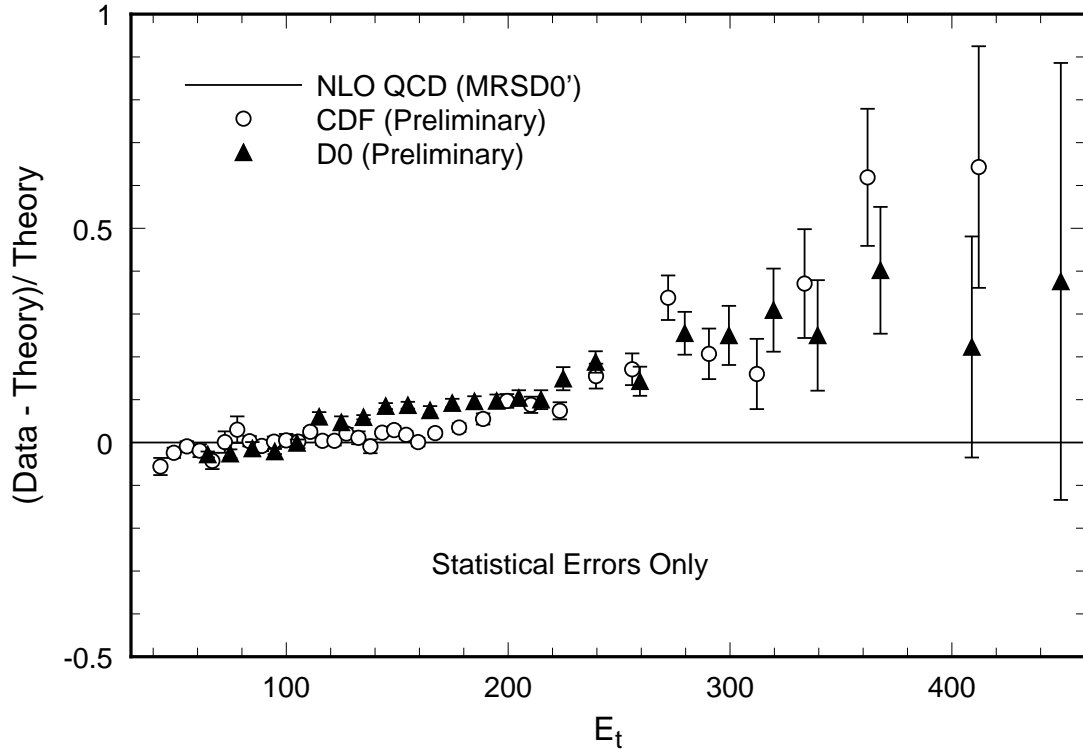


FIG. 2. The preliminary CDF and D0 Run Ib data compared to NLO QCD using MRSD0' parton distributions.

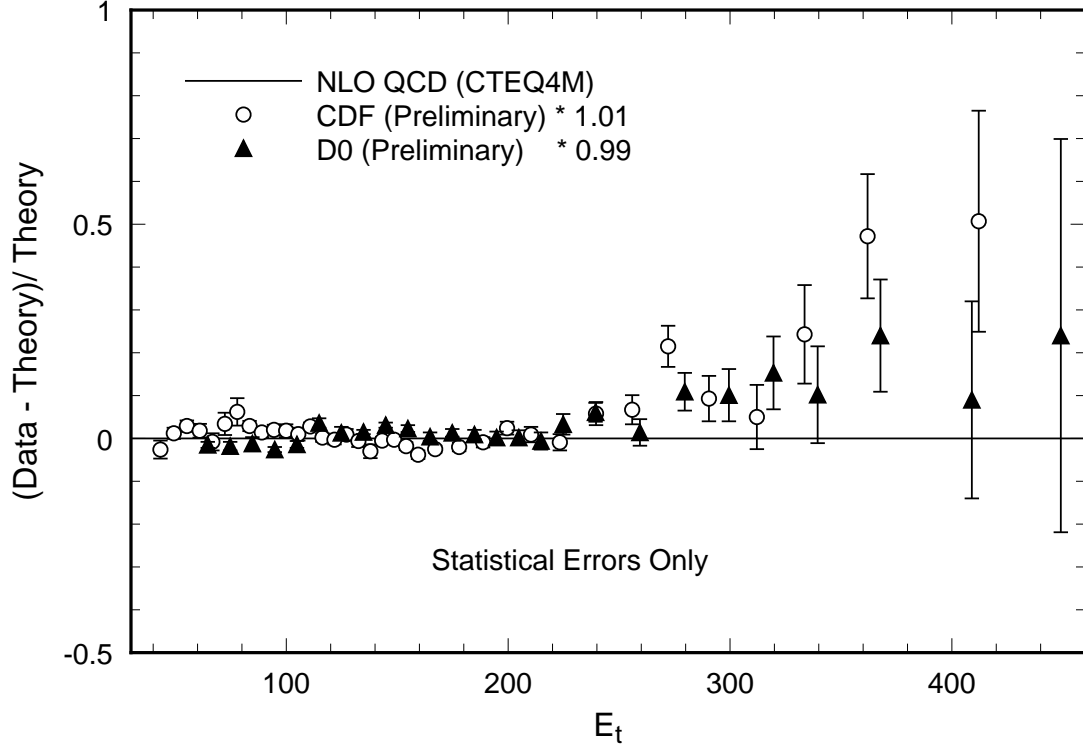


FIG. 3. The preliminary CDF and D0 Run Ib data compared to NLO QCD using CTEQ4M parton distributions. Experimental points normalized as indicated.

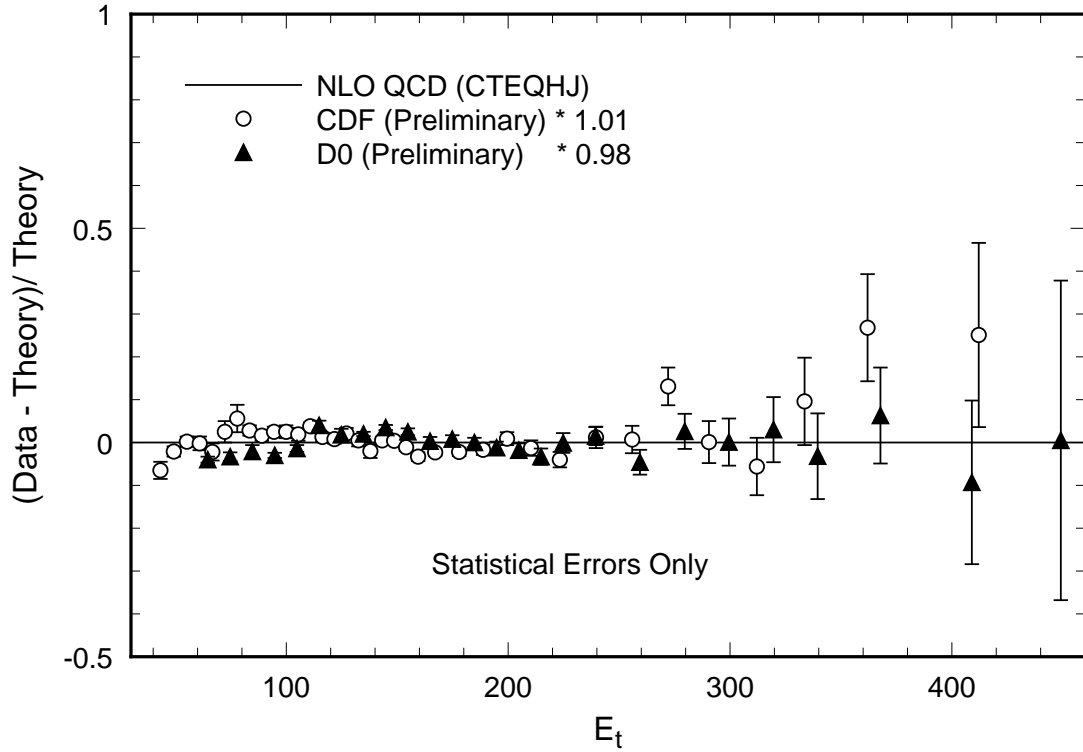


FIG. 4. The preliminary CDF and D0 Run Ib data compared to NLO QCD using CTEQHJ parton distributions. Experimental points normalized as indicated.